

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2002-408-C - ORDER NO. 2003-459  
JULY 17, 2003

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| IN RE: Generic Proceeding to Define the Term<br>"Inflation-Based Index" | )<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>) | ORDER GRANTING<br>COMMISSION STAFF<br>EXTENSION TO<br>PREFILE<br>TESTIMONY |
|---|-----------------------|--|

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of the Commission Staff (Staff) for an extension of time in which to prefile its testimony and exhibits regarding the generic proceeding to address the term "inflation-based index." The Commission Staff was originally scheduled to file direct testimony and exhibits in the instant docket on or before July 9, 2003, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2003-315 issued May 29, 2003. The Staff was unable to prefile its testimony and exhibits by the due date of July 9, 2003; therefore, by letter of July 8, 2003, the Staff requests an extension until on or before Wednesday, July 16, 2003, to file and serve testimony and exhibits. According to Staff's request, the Staff witness, Dr. James Spearman, needs additional time to prepare testimony and exhibits for this proceeding due to personal and professional reasons that have delayed his preparation of the testimony and exhibits. Staff states that Dr. Spearman recently had to move his parents into an assisted living facility. Additionally, Dr. Spearman must transport his father for kidney dialysis three times per week and also for radiation treatments three

times a week. The Staff states further that professionally Dr. Spearman has attended the SEARUC meeting in North Carolina. These matters combined with the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, according to Staff, unavoidably delayed Dr. Spearman in the preparation of his testimony and exhibits for this Docket. Accordingly, the Staff requests an extension from July 9, 2003, to on or before July 16, 2003, to file and serve testimony and exhibits in the instant proceeding. However, we note that the record reveals that Staff filed and served its testimony and exhibits on all parties of record July 14, 2003, via e-mail transmission and first class U.S. mail.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission discerns no prejudice to any party in granting the requested extension in this matter and concludes that the request of the Commission Staff for an extension to file its testimony and exhibits should be granted. Accordingly, we approve and grant the Staff's request for an extension of time. The Commission Staff's prefilings and service of its direct testimony and exhibits on **July 14, 2003**, is therefore approved. The other requirements set out by Order No. 2003-315 remain in effect.

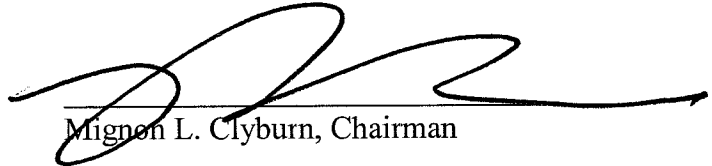
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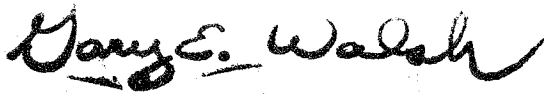
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:



Gary E. Walsh, Executive Director

(SEAL)